

Achieving Excellence in Healthcare Design





Achieving Excellence in Healthcare Design is a key deliverable of the NHS Plan. Improving the patient Environment is one of the 6 major priorities of the Department of Health.

The Prime Minister launched Better Public Buildings in October 2000 to raise the profile of design and bring about a step change in the quality of public sector buildings

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has agreed to be a design champion, acting as a high profile catalyst to ensure that changes are delivered.

Yvette Cooper is the Department of Health's ministerial design champion. The Department of Health has an extensive design programme to deliver the vision.

The vision

Achieving Excellence in healthcare design is essential to provide high quality environment for patients, staff and visitors.

In architecture there is a greater acknowledgement and understanding of the interaction of people and space. In hospital architecture there is a research base, which should point the way for a healing environment to support the work of clinical colleagues.

Buildings designed to provide a welcoming, therapeutic and safe environment for our patients will enhance healthcare delivery. Our urban and rural communities will benefit from good quality architecture.

The programme

NHS Estates will deliver the Department of Health's design programme. We will:

Raise the profile of design in the procurement of healthcare buildings.

- Set up high level working groups and maintain design high on the agenda
- Continue to deliver objectives of government's interdepartmental design groups
- Involve key national figures who wish to improve the patient environment
- Inform NHS, designers and constructors

Partner with the NHS and others to ensure patient's expectations are met.

- Drive the departments agenda
- Continue cross government working
- Work with expertise reference groups

Support the NHS by establishing a Centre of Healthcare Design at NHS Estates, to maintain, develop and deliver this extensive design programme.

- Establish a 'Centre of Healthcare Design'
- Invest in shaping the future
- Develop and disseminate guidance
- Research cost saving innovation without compromising design

For further information see the design section of the NHS Estates website.

www.nhsestates.gov.uk

This website gives direct links to the Centre of Healthcare Design including:

- Achieving Excellence Design Evaluation Toolkit (AEDET),  click on the icon
- NHS Design Portfolio www.nhsdesignportfolio.gov.uk,  click on the icon
- Publications list

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